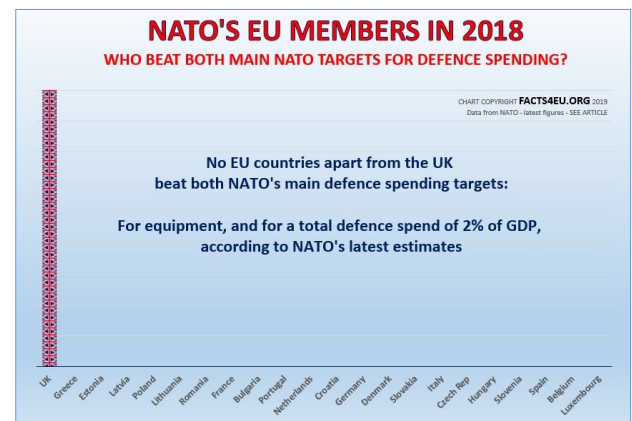
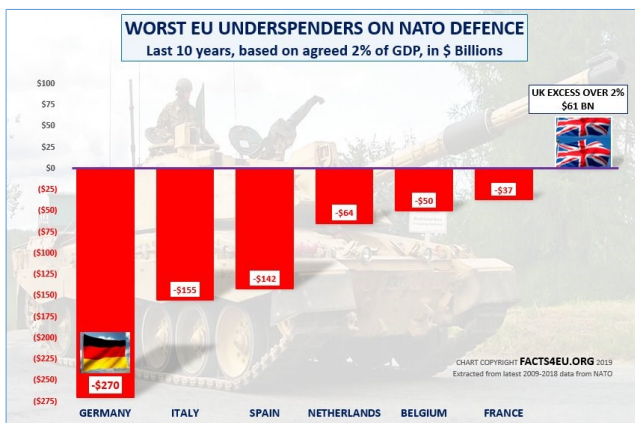


HOW THE BRITISH TAXPAYER HAS BEEN FUNDING EU DEFENCE

EU Defence Union Factsheet No.2, by Facts4EU.Org

EU NATO members have underfunded EU defence by **\$829 BILLION DOLLARS in the last 10 years
Yet the UK has paid **\$61 BILLION** more than it had to**

**How can the EU imagine it can defend itself, when it has never paid remotely what it should?
And why does Theresa May want to continue funding EU27 defence?**



The EU is rapidly developing its 'Common Union Defence' which is specified in the Lisbon treaty. The EU Commission now plans to increase its current defence budget **by over 50 times from 2021**. This still won't come remotely close to making up for the shortfall in funding.

Six members of the EU aren't even members of NATO

Austria, Cyprus, Finland, Ireland, Malta, and Sweden are not even full members of NATO. The EU27's underspending on defence would be even greater if these countries were included.

In the last 10 years

- The UK has spent **\$61 billion more** than the NATO minimum of 2% of GDP on defence
- Germany has spent **\$279 billion less** than it should
- Italy has spent **\$155 billion less** than it should
- Spain has **underspent** by \$142 bn, the Netherlands by \$64bn, Belgium by \$50bn, France by \$37bn
- The 21 EU & NATO members (excl. UK) have spent **\$829 billion dollars less** than the NATO minimum

Despite all of the above, the EU claims it is responsible for peace

"For centuries, Europe was a continent of war. However after the Second World War, the European Union has become a most successful peace project, being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2012. Today the EU's ambition is to be a global actor for peace more than ever." - EU Commission, Aug 2018

The EU wasn't even formed until the Maastricht Treaty of 1993, and the EU Common Security & Defence Policy wasn't established until 2009, **64 years after the end of WWII**.

The EU, 'peace', and the British taxpayer

Under Theresa May's 'deal', the UK taxpayer is expected to pay for EU defence until 2021 and probably much longer, and for the pensions of EU defence staff for decades. Worse still, Mrs May has been tying the UK into EU defence structures since the Referendum, as explained in our [Defence Union Factsheet No.1](#).

Defence co-operation? Yes. The British taxpayer funding the EU27's defence? No.

Apr 2019. For detail & charts for this factsheet, go to <https://facts4eu.org/news/2019-defence-summary-2>